



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2007

CONTACT: Maggie Throckmorton
615-741-6007
Monica Smith-Ashford
615-253-3969

TENNESSEE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD DISBURSES \$14 MILLION IN OPERATIONAL FUNDING TO 911 DISTRICTS

NASHVILLE, TN- The Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB) will disburse \$14 million in operational funding to the state's 100 emergency communications districts (ECDs) by the end of June. This disbursement is the result of the Board's unanimous decision to provide additional funding to all ECDs throughout the state, assuring every ECD has resources to meet established standards of service.

This program, like all others adopted by the TECB, is fully funded by existing wireless 911 service charges. Under the new operational funding program, each district will receive \$40,000 to cover the basic costs of 911 service without regard to the district's size or population. The remainder of the \$14 million will be divided among the districts using a formula that reflects the districts' population and average operational costs.

"The Board carefully scrutinizes each funding proposal to see that money is directed to where the districts need it most," says Board Chairman Randy Porter. "Our job is to see that dollars actually translate to service, and this program does exactly that."

The funding formula was unanimously recommended to the TECB by a committee appointed to study the funding of 911 emergency communications districts. The Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations proposed the creation of the committee, which began working on its recommendations in February 2006.

In 2005, Tennessee received an award from the E9-1-1 Institute as the nation's best state or regional program and was the third state to offer Phase II wireless capability in every county.

The Tennessee Emergency Communications Board is an independent board comprised of nine members, eight of whom are appointed by the Governor to serve a fixed term. The ninth member is the Comptroller of the Treasury or his designee. The Board, created in 1998 and located within the Department of Commerce and Insurance for administrative purposes, serves as the state's oversight authority with regard to E-911 issues.

For more information about the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board, visit <http://www.state.tn.us/commerce/911/> or call 615-253-2164

For a map of Tennessee's Phase II wireless capability by county as compared to surrounding states, visit <http://nena.ddti.net/statemap.aspx?State=Tennessee>.

###

DAVY CROCKETT TOWER, 5TH FLOOR
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243
615.741.2241